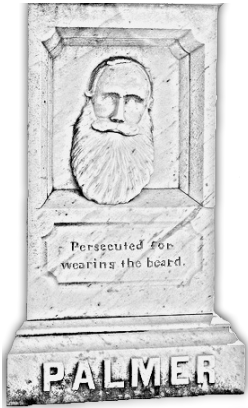


Happiness Pony



Joseph Palmer

Text excerpted from Bronson Alcott's Fruitlands by Clara Endicott Sears, 1915:

No satisfactory record of Fruitlands could be written without giving an account of Joseph Palmer, the man with the beard. A beard at that time was only worn by the Jews, and that was the real reason for this persecution, and it caused him to be called "Old Jew Palmer," though there was not a drop of Jewish blood in his veins.

From an 1884 interview with Palmer's son published in the Boston Daily Globe:

"He wore at that time a long beard, and he and Silas Lamson, an old scythe-snath maker of Sterling, were the only men known in this section of the country as wearing beards. Everybody shaved clean in those days, and to wear whiskers in any form was worse than a disgrace, it was a sin. Father was hooted at on the street, talked about at the grocery, intimidated by his fellow-men and labored with by the clergy to shave, but to no purpose. The stronger the opposition, the firmer his determination.

"Well, public sentiment against the man and beard grew stronger, and personal violence was threatened. One day [in 1830], as father was coming out of the old Fitchburg Hotel, where he had been to carry some provision, he then being in the butchering business, he was seized by four men, whose names I have not in mind now, who were armed with shears, lather, and razor, their intention being to shave him, as the sentiment of the populace was that that beard must come off at the hands of the wearer, possibly at the hands of some one, anyway. These four men laid violent hands upon him and threw him heavily on the stone steps, badly hurting his back. The assaulted party was very muscular, and struggled to free himself, but to no purpose, until he drew from his vest pocket an old, loose-jointed jack-knife, with which he struck out left and right and stabbed two of them in the legs, when the assailants precipitately departed without cutting a hair. He was afterwards arrested for committing an unprovoked assault, and ordered by Justice Brigham to pay a fine, which he refused to do, as he claimed to be acting for the maintenance of a principle. He was thrown into jail [in Worcester], where he remained over a year. He was lodged with the debtors. One day Jailer Bel-lows came in with several men to shave him. He threw himself on his back in his bunk, and when they approached, he struck out with his feet, and after he had kicked over a few of them they let him and his beard alone."

Palmer is buried in Evergreen Cemetery in Leominster, Massachusetts, where his tombstone reads:



At Union Station
Give a book - Take a book

Shane Capra's Failed Utopias

Fish-fearing Kook Farm Goes Bust in Transcendentalist Meltdown

Fruitlands in Harvard, Massachusetts, was the failed utopian experiment of Charles Lane and Bronson Alcott (father of Louisa May Alcott and inventor of "recess"). While all utopian experiments are prone to hilarious failure, Fruitlands takes the cake. It lasted only seven months before collapsing into a mess of financial ruin, beards, and looming celibacy. Here is a brief play-by-play.

The first sign of doom was that, despite having no experience farming, these transcendentalists decided the only way to be totally utop-core was to be vegan and not use any animal labor whatsoever. They were militant abolitionists, boycotted cotton, and were teetotalers (SXE). Fair enough. However, they also refused to eat anything that grew beneath the soil, growing only "aspiring" vegetables that grew towards the sun. This left very little in the way of crops the communards could both grow in New England and eat.

The hapless 13-member crew began their farm in June 1843—exactly three months behind the standard New England planting schedule. The one member who knew anything about farming was the bewhiskered Joseph Palmer (*see sidebar*), who joined them in July. Palmer convinced everyone that they had to use a mule for plowing—but not before they had kicked a woman out for sneakily eating a fish.

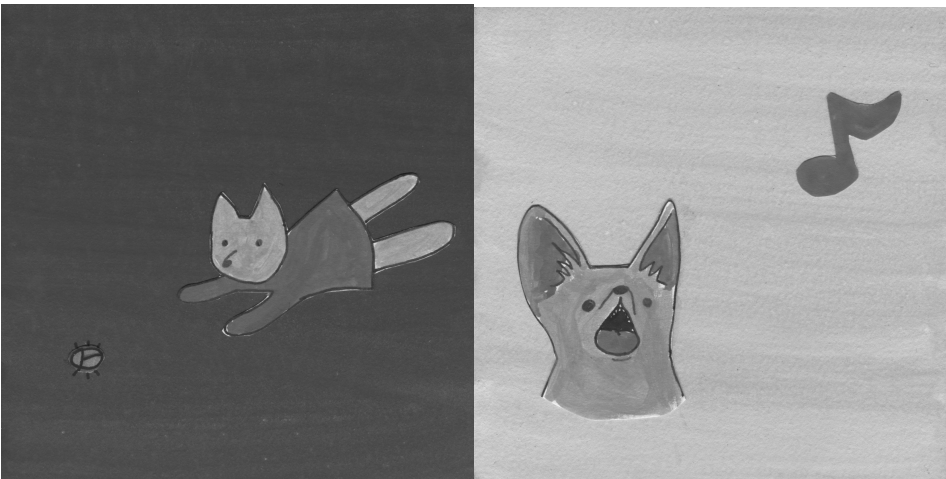
To make matters worse, Lane and Alcott conveniently embarked on speaking tours in support of Fruitlands during any sort of planting or harvest time. This left much of the labor to Alcott's wife Abigail and their three preteen daughters. By the fall, Fruitlands was an agricultural failure and the communards were entirely dependent on the generosity of neighboring farmers. By January everyone had fled the utopia but the Alcotts and Lane.

Lane had been studying the nearby Shaker communities, and decided the Shakers' success was because of their strict celibacy. He began to push celibacy hard on Bronson Alcott. Bronson was on the fence, but Abigail soon nixed all of Lane's arguments by threatening to leave Bronson if he went celibate. Abigail, weary of this utopia and Lane's ranting, convinced her brother, Samuel May, to pull his financial backing out of Fruitlands, and the Alcotts moved to a pig farm. Lane was the last man standing in utopia, and financially ruined he tried to sell the land to Palmer. Palmer accused Lane of betraying his anti-capitalist values unless he sold Fruitlands for \$1. Lane agreed. Palmer bought the land and began a successful intentional community called Free-lands, where radicals, reformers, and wanderers found refuge for another 20 years. (*Shane Capra*)

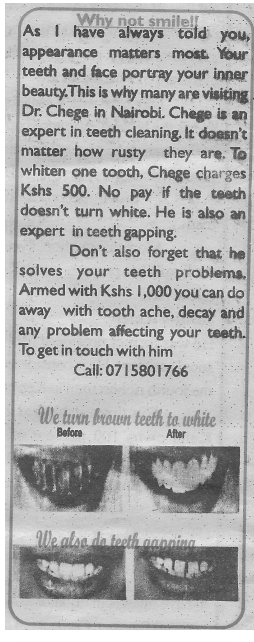
Foxes

WRITTEN AND ILLUSTRATED BY CINDY BRENNAN

Jupiter turned a fox into a human and made her his queen. However, she spotted a beetle, and, unable to contain her instincts, pounced on it. Jupiter returned her to fox form.



Red foxes have a five-octave vocal range.



Bundle Up

Based on industry tests, if you are wearing a long-sleeved shirt, pants, and a suit jacket, you should be comfortable while sedentary if the temperature is 70°F. The unit for measuring the insulation of clothing is, wonderfully, the **clo**; the ensemble above equals 0.96 clo. Wearing pants, a tee shirt, a long-sleeved shirt, and a sweater provide about the same insulation.

By adding long underwear (0.36 clo), you should be comfortable at about 65°F. To be comfortable while sedentary at 50°F, you'd need 2.7 clo of insulation, and to be comfortable at 32°F you'd need 4 clo. That's about as much clothing as eskimos wear. A well-fitting fleece hoody could add 0.4 clo; a down parka provides 1 clo or more.

On a related note, when naked you lose about 7% of your heat through your head. (*Mike Benedetti*)



OLDE MOON

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From Transcendental Wild Oats (1873) by Louisa May Alcott:

"Our garments are to be linen till we learn to raise our own cotton or some substitute for woollen fabrics," added Brother Abel, blissfully basking in an imaginary future as warm and brilliant as the generous fire before him.

"Haou about shoes?" asked Brother Moses, surveying his own with interest.

"We must yield that point till we can manufacture an innocent substitute for leather. Bark, wood, or some durable fabric will be invented in time. Meanwhile, those who desire to carry out our idea to the fullest extent can go barefooted," said Lion, who liked extreme measures.

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Revenue	
Donations from editors	\$86.06
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Other donations	\$0.00
Expenses	
500 copies	\$84.06
Test copies	\$2.00
Net Income	\$0.00

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editor@happinesspony.com

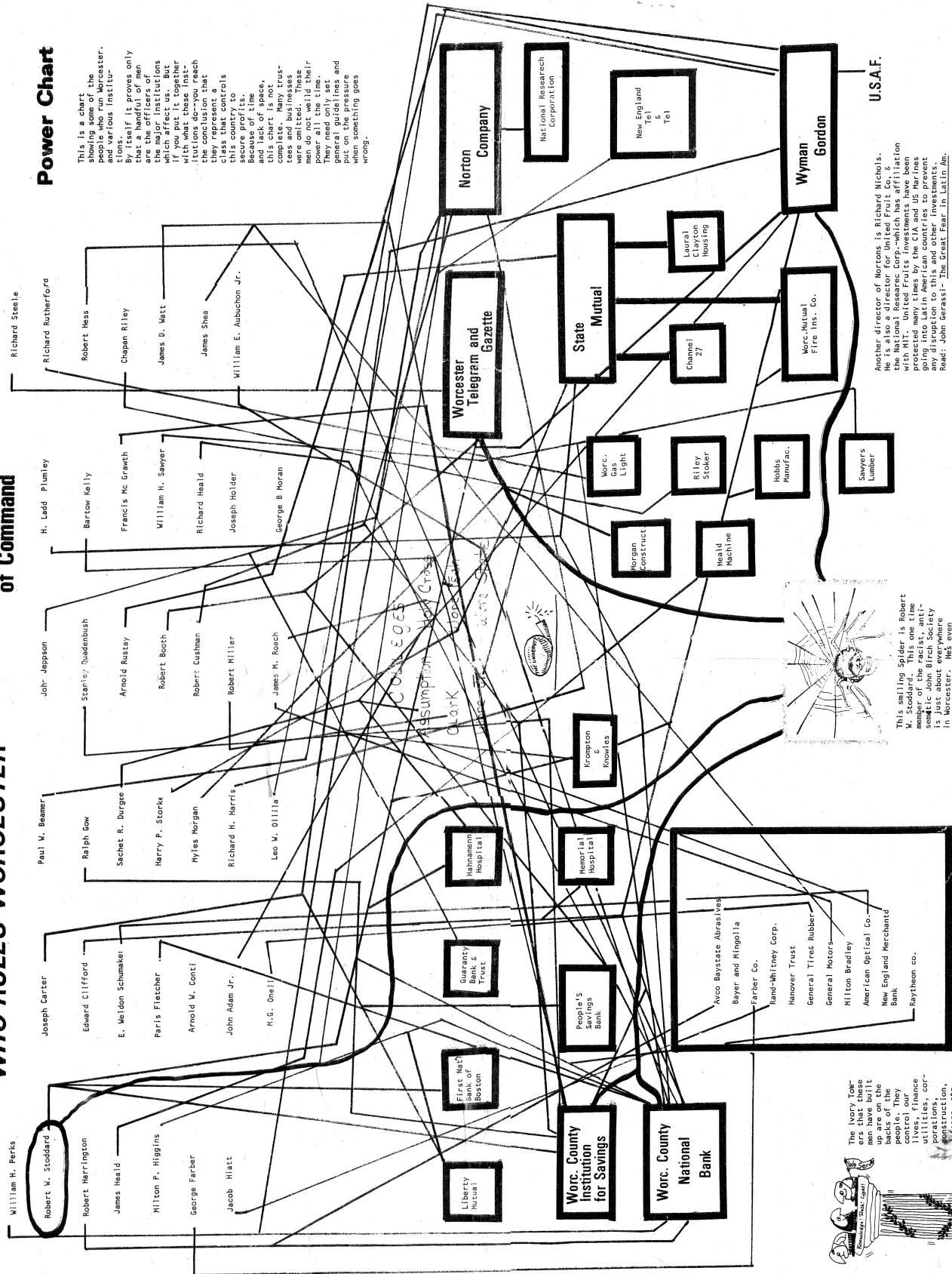
Who Rules Worcester: The Spider Web of Command is from the Worcester State College newspaper, April 15, 1970. Please send comments or corrections to editor@happinesspony.com. To help with a 2013 update, visit happinesspony.com.

The Spider Web of Command

WHO RULES WORCESTER

Power Chart

This is a chart showing some of the people who run Worcester, and various institutions. By itself it proves only that the landowners are the officers of the major institutions which affect us. But if you put it together with the other charts on these institutions, it leads to the conclusion that they represent a class that controls this country to the benefit of a few. Because of time and lack of space, this chart is not complete. Many trustees and businessmen do not want their power all the time. They need only set general guidelines and put on the pressure when something goes wrong.



Another director of Nortons is Richard Nichols. He is also a director for United Fruit Co., 6 the National Resource Corp.—which has affiliation with MIT. United Fruit's investments have been protected many times by the CIA and US Marines going into Latin American countries to prevent any disruption to this and other investments. Read: John Gerassi—The Great Fear in Latin Am.

This smiling Spider is Robert W. Stoddard. This one time member of the racist, antisemitic John Birch Society is just about everywhere in Worcester. He's even in Viet Nam.

The Ivory Tower—
 ers that these
 men have built
 up are on the
 backs of the
 people. They
 control our
 lives, finance
 corporations,
 construction,
 defense, etc.
 They control
 our schools.
 They exploit
 foreign countries.
**WHEN THE BOTTOM
 DISRUPTS, THE
 TOP CRUMBLES**

NOTE: THE NAMES MAY CHANGE, BUT THE POWER REMAINS

Paul Buffone
Joe Hill Brigade

Major Corporations